

MOBILE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROJECT

STUDENT TRIP TO PHNOM TAMAO REPORT

June 5-7, 2009

Date: June 5th, 2009

I. Purpose

Raising students, teachers, and communities' awareness on wildlife and habitat protection by conducting student trip to Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue Center (PTWRC)

II. Program:

By collaborating with Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue Center and its staff, Free the Bears, the Forestry Administration, Mobile Unit team, teachers, communities, students' parents and local authorities, the KE team was able to conduct a successful student trip to PTWRC on Saturday 6th June 2009. The trip lasted for three days with participation of **71 visitors (28 females)** from 10 schools (Near Pisey, Ornchaert, Kasach Krohorm, Taben, Kandoul, Sovanna Baitong, Andoung Teuk, Chi Phat, Rong Plam Kerson, and Wat Trapeang Rung) in 5 communes (Chikor Krom, Kandoul, Andoung Teuk, Chi Phat, and Trapeang Rung), and 4 districts (Sre Ambel, Botumsakor, Tmar Bang, and Koh Kong district) in Koh Kong province.

III. Activities

1. Activities on the way to Phnom Penh

After the world Environment Day had ended at about noon, all visitor headed for Phnom Penh at 12 o'clock. Students handed in approval letters from their parents to the Project Coordinator before getting on the bus to Phnom Penh, under facilitation from school principals and teachers by selecting students and seeking agreement from students' parents,

They were so excited to have this great opportunity where they could learn more about wildlife and other key information from staff of Phnom Tamao and the Mobile Unit team.

2. Activities in Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue Center

The visitors were welcomed warmly by PTWRC staffs after they arrived at the site at about 8: 30 am. Mr. Prum Nol, Forestry Administration members Mr. kuy Tong, vice-chief of PTWRC and Mr. Kouch Haksron WRRT members presented general information to all visitors.

All visitors are from eco-clubs in 10 target schools.

The visitors were led by PTWRC staff to see the wildlife in the zoo. The tour of PTWRC was about 3 hours, during which time the students, teachers, and community members had the chance to see all the wildlife at the center. The group broke for lunch at 12:00.

Each eco-club's representative had to present about their activity, photos, drawing. Through the presentation of each club, they learned more from each other such as names, song, poem, members, activities, photos, and drawing.

The most common activities in each club they presented during the visit are:

- Picking up trash in their school campus and in community near by
- Grow flowers in garden
- Clean up in publicity such as hospital, district house
- Take care of compost and tree
- Drawing

After the presentation, each club exchange their photos, or drawings with each other. By getting eco-clubs involved in this presentation, we hope that they will make an effort to continue their activities in their own club to be outstanding one among the ten clubs.

3. Games

A pair of eco-clubs competed together by playing Tug of War (Known as Teinh Prot in Khmer). Finally, 50 students, 10 teachers, and 10 community members played "Tug of War" (Known as Teinh Prot in Khmer). Everyone had fun playing this game. Due to time constraints, the visitors headed back to Phnom Penh after this game.

4. Visit sight seeing in Phnom Penh

After the game finished, the buses left the PTWRC at 2:00 pm to go back to Phnom Penh. In the evening, they spent almost two hours visiting Soriya supermarket, central park, the Royal palace, and the Independence Monument in Phnom Penh. Ten teachers from ten target schools were provided more information regarding to eco-club.

All the visitors were interested in their accommodation because they learned how to use the elevator, air-conditioners, and the telephones in their room so that it is easy for them to contact each other from one room to another.

IV. Materials delivered

- 20 notebooks
- 20 pens

Most of the students had their own notebooks and pens to write down the information.

V. Outcomes

- Visitors learned about many kinds of wildlife. They are more aware about the wildlife's food, habitat, threats, and wildlife and habitat conservation.
- Students, teachers, and community members will continue to educate their classmates, colleagues, and communities about the information they learned from the site when they go back

- They communicated well with each other.
- They learned how to use elevators, air-conditioners, refrigerators, and telephones in their room and other facilities in the guest house.
- Visitors participated in fun games

VI. Problem encountered

- Several students got car sick. even though some of them took motion sickness medicine.
- For the first arrival at PTWRC, the kids did not pay enough attention to the presentation of the staffs as they were eagerly wanted to see wild animals.
- The trip did not have enough time to gather for a meeting when traveling from Chi Phat right after World Environment Day to Phnom Penh. We were late for leaving for Phnom Penh resulting some problems of management on the visitor

Overall, the trip was successful and went smoothly. Teachers, community members, and students were all very excited to have the opportunity to participate and they hope to share their knowledge from the trip to Phnom Penh and PTWRC with their community members and schoolmates. They especially enjoyed seeing Chhouk and Lucky dancing and staying in a modern guest house.

Prepared by

Sam Veasna (Project Coordinator)